

Resumé

Title of thesis: Political Trials in 1950s

The purpose of my thesis is to describe the political trials in continuities. It means the evolution of political situation, evolution of legal order, political trials themselves, rehabilitation and the present view of the phenomenon of political trials.

The thesis comprises of six chapters. Chapter One deals with comprehensive view of the political trials, but not only on the political trials themselves. It mainly focuses on legal order, evolution of the judiciary, the background of the political trials, methods used in creating political trials, types of political trials and influence on society. The chapter is subdivided into seven subchapters. These subchapters describe legal order, persecution, political trials (in general), types of political trials, activity of Soviet advisors, methods and the judiciary.

Chapter Two deals with the concept of punishment, its application and execution. The chapter consists of three subchapters. Subchapter One focuses on criminal offenses and the types of punishments. Subchapter Two focuses on the capital punishment and Subchapter Three explains execution of punishment (capital punishment and custodial sentence).

Chapter Three deals with the trial with Karel Kutlvašr. I would like to present the mechanism of the trial with a specific person. Information has been drawn from the books, and documents. The chapter is subdivided into four subchapters. These subchapters illustrate the life of Gen. Karel Kutlvašr, the trial and his rehabilitation.

Chapter Four deals with life of Jaroslav Karl, living witness of communist jails (or camps). Mr. Karl told me about his experiences. He is 83 years old and still living in Klatovy, Western Bohemia. The chapter is subdivided into four subchapters and these subchapters focus on life of Mr. Karl.

Chapter Five deals with evolution and course of rehabilitation. Rehabilitation is associated with trials and follows them. The chapter consists of seven subchapters. Subchapters concentrate on the work of rehabilitation commissions (Barák's commission, Kolder's commission, Barnabitská's commission, Piller's commission and Kempný's commission). Evolution after January 1968 is important as well and Subchapter Four deals with it.

Last chapter (Chapter Six) deals with reminiscence to the present. It's a specific view of the crimes of communism after the Velvet Revolution in 1989. This chapter is not subdivided into subchapters.

The main aim of the thesis was to provide the reader with the important information about the political trials. I think this aim was reached.